BENGALURU, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024 www.Bangaloremirror.com 16 Pages PRICE ₹4

Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

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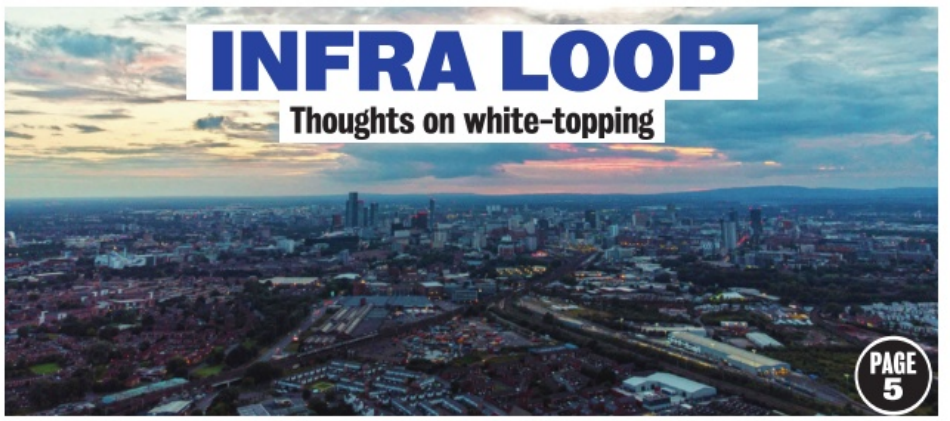

5-in-1 vaccine planned for stray dogs in Bengaluru as microchipping proposal gets green light after public consultation

VAX THE DOG

BBMP to procure 1,84,671 units of combined vaccine

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ASHWINI CHAUDHARY MONTY/UNSPLASH

For the first time in the country, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike will be providing a five-in-one vaccine to street dogs in the city.

The civic body plans on immunising 1,84,671 street dogs, we are told. To avoid duplication of vaccination, the BBMP is to revive the proposal of microchipping stray canines.

Bengaluru will be the first city to use a five-in-one vaccine for immunising stray dogs. The five-in-one dose will contain live attenuated freeze-dried vaccine for immunisation of street dogs against canine distemper, canine adenovirus type II, canine parvovirus, canine parainfluenza virus, and the liquid fraction for canine leptospirosis.

The BBMP is planning to procure 1,84,671 units of the combined vaccine. Currently, the civic body is providing just one dose of the anti-rabies vaccine to street dogs.

The combined vaccine was made possible thanks to the demand of animal activists; the BBMP has floated a global tender for the procurement of 1,84,671 vials of the combined vaccine and has set the internationally approved certification as eligibility for tender awarding. According to BBMP officials, there are 6-7 companies in India that manufacture the combined vaccine and it is estimated to cost Rs 1,000 per vial.

> **"A 1 mm microchip will be inserted in the neck of the street dog to view details about date of surgery, vaccination, combined vaccination...**
> — senior official, animal husbandry dept

"We have 2.79 lakh street dogs in Bengaluru city; we have estimated to immunise 50 percent of the population with the combined vaccine. Around 50,000 sterilisations happen at ABC centres. Street dogs will be given combined vaccinations in ABC centres as well.

According to experts, two doses of the combined vaccine should be provided but we will only be giving one dose," said a senior official from the animal husbandry department.

BBMP has also floated a tender for the procurement of 1,84,671 anti-rabies vaccine injections.

With the combined vaccine to be provided once on the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 »

Smiley on the road

City police introduce creative approach to monitor driving habits using emoticons

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If you tend to have a heavy foot on the accelerator, watch out for some unexpected companions on your drive. The city police have introduced a creative approach to monitor driving habits using emoticons.

When cruising below 29 km ph, a cheerful emoticon will greet you, but between 30 to 59 km ph, a cautionary emoticon will remind you to ease up on the gas. Once you hit 60 km ph or above, brace yourself for an angry emoticon signalling you to slow down!

DCP traffic (west) Anitha B Haddannavar explained: "We've enhanced the functionality of Radar Speed Signboards (RSS) by integrating speed limits and emoticons since one week. When drivers exceed the speed limit, the boards display a warning about speeding. Approximately eight RSS installations have been completed on ORR near Sumanahalli, providing immediate feedback to drivers. This feature was provided by signal light vendors and has received positive feedback. NICE Road is also adopting this approach. Drivers can quickly adjust their speed if they realise they're speeding. This initiative has

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Music workshop

Vanamala Centre for Art and Culture Trust invites you to experience the enchanting world of music with "Mysurina Chinnari Sangeeta," a captivating musical event tailored specifically for young learners. This event is conceived and curated by Dr Meera Rajaram Pranesh and is the culmination of a three-month music workshop dedicated to young children.
Where: Puravankara Suchitra Cinema and Cultural Academy
When: February 18, 10 am to 1 pm

02 Coffee and community

Maverick & Farmer, the artisanal coffee brand, invites you to indulge in all things coffee at their cafe in Ulsoor during their second edition of Harvest Festival. Whether you're a seasoned coffee connoisseur or love good food and company, this immersive festival promises an unforgettable experience.
Where: Maverick & Farmer, Ulsoor and Koramangala
When: February 24 & 25, 11 am onwards

03 Curtains up

Navodaya, a dynamic troupe dedicated to drama and fine arts for over two decades, presents "The Signal Man," a compelling Kannada science fiction play. Directed by Poorna Chandra Teajasvi, "The Signal Man" revolves around the life of a Railway Station Master. The play delves into the intuition of the protagonist and narrates his heroic acts in saving the lives of thousands of passengers.
Where: Vyoma Artspace and Studio Theatre
When: February 18

Farmers unite

Thousands of farmers gathered at the Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Saturday to stage a protest against the government demanding fulfilment of various demands. Approximately 5,000 farmers from across the state participated in the protest.

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

'Mother-and-child' revamp ahead for KC General Hospital

Bengaluru's iconic healthcare institution set for major upgrade including construction of dedicated Mother and Child Hospital and more

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The Karnataka state health budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025 has allocated a significant amount of Rs 15,145 crore to enhance healthcare facilities, with a particular focus on maternal and child health. One notable initiative is the transformation of the renowned KC General Hospital in Bengaluru, which will see the construction of a dedicated Mother and Child Hospital building, along with other crucial infrastructure facilities. This ambitious project, estimated to cost Rs 150 crores, aims to elevate the standard of treatment for mothers and children, thereby addressing the growing healthcare needs in the region.

With a rich history spanning 80 years, KC General Hospital has been a vital healthcare institution in Bengaluru. Despite its long-standing service, the existing infrastructure posed challenges in providing specialised care for maternity and paediatric services. The proposed Mother and Child Hospital will feature state-of-the-art amenities, including advanced scanning and screening machines, a dedicated labour room, operation theatre, inpatient and outpatient departments, and a neonatal unit, offering comprehensive healthcare services in a 200-bed facility.

Dr Indira Kabada, the Medical Superintendent of KC General Hospital, expressed gratitude to the state government for this crucial decision, emphasising the tremendous benefits it would bring to the thousands of patients the hospital serves daily. The new facilities are expected to streamline healthcare delivery and improve the overall quality of maternal and child healthcare.

KC General Hospital is one of the oldest hospitals in the city

A substantial investment of Rs 130 Cr will be directed towards setting up 199 health and wellness centres, further expanding primary healthcare services across the state

In addition to the Mother and Child Hospital initiative, the state government is investing Rs 21 crore to equip 19 district hospitals, including KC General, with digital mammography machines for early detection and treatment of breast and cervical cancer, prevalent issues among women. Dr Kabade highlighted the significance of upgrading from older devices, stating that the digital mammography machines would enhance the screening process and facilitate more efficient reporting for doctors.

Furthermore, the state government announced plans to establish state-of-the-art critical care blocks in each district, allocating over Rs 75 crore for the renovation of dilapidated health department buildings. This initiative aims to ensure 24/7 emergency healthcare services for rural communities. Additionally, a substantial investment of Rs 130 crore will be directed towards setting up 199 health and wellness centres, further expanding primary healthcare services across the state. These strategic decisions underscore the government's commitment to strengthening healthcare infrastructure and addressing key health issues. The comprehensive approach, ranging from specialised facilities to upgrading diagnostic equipment, is expected to have a lasting impact on the overall well-being of the people of Karnataka.

Goon gang of auto drivers attacks bike taxi rider

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In a shocking incident reported at the Basavanagudi Police Station, a criminal gang of auto drivers unleashed a wave of terror on a bike taxi driver, threatening to kill him and vandalising his vehicle. The person who filed the complaint on behalf of the victim, said that the incident, which occurred on February 11 around 9 pm, unfolded on the footpath opposite Vasavi Convention Centre on Vani Vilas Road. According to the complainant Kishore's account, the assailants, comprising an

unknown group of auto drivers, subjected the victim to physical assault and issued menacing threats.

Kishore said they threatened the driver and also compromised the safety of his customer. They forcibly snatched his mobile phone and damaged the bike's number plate.

"I saw the video online and then fact checked it and reported it to the police. This is not the first time that a bike taxi driver has been assaulted. Last year, I faced this four times in six months. At those times, the police were helpful, but still such incidents keep happening," said Kishore.

He emphasises on the urgency of identifying and apprehending the perpetrators.

"I have seen auto drivers identifying baki taxi drivers near metro stations and approaching them. Sometimes it's just arguments and many times it escalates to physical violence. I have seen cases where even the customers hailing the baki taxi have been assaulted," he added.

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Upgrade worth ₹5 crore planned for Freedom Park

Renovation work for structures, including run-down old Central Jail; acoustics, electrification on the cards

> **Some of these structures including the Central Jail have sustained damage. The pathway and jogger's track will be upgraded too** — BBMP official

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The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is planning a Rs 5-crore makeover for the Freedom Park. The Palike is also exploring venues to generate commercial revenue from Freedom Park.

Bengaluru's famous Freedom Park in the Central Business District is spread over 21 acres. The BBMP has created a plan for renovation and repairs to the existing structures. Additionally, BBMP also plans to allow commercial activities to generate revenue.

Freedom Park was opened to the public in 2008 and includes a former central jail. However, over time, the Freedom Park has deteriorated, especially the Central Jail part.

So now, the BBMP has floated a tender for the renovation of existing structures, acoustics, and electrification of Freedom Park. BBMP has estimated a budget of Rs 5 crore for the entire work.

"We are taking up renovation work for Freedom Park for the existing building structures. Some of these building structures including the Central Jail structures have sustained some damage. We will also be upgrading the pathway and jogger's track. The toilets are in terrible condition and we need to improve them. We are planning some new flood nights inside the gallery building," said a senior BBMP official.

After the renovation, BBMP officials hope to see Freedom Park completely as new while retaining the existing structures. Besides the renovation work, BBMP plans to construct some new recharge ponds and a second entrance for Freedom Park from Ramachandra Road.

Budget constraints

Due to budget constraints, BBMP has dropped its plans for air conditioning and acoustics inside the amphitheatre. "We had estimated that the whole project would be for Rs 8 crore but currently we have only received Rs 5 crore. Due to budget constraints, we dropped the plans to upgrade the 60-seater amphitheatre," said a BBMP source.

In a bid to generate more commercial revenue for the Palike, it is planning to explore avenues to generate revenue from Freedom Park. "We need to generate more revenue for BBMP. We are exploring opportunities for commercial generation by creating a space for hosting gatherings," said a senior BBMP official.

Currently, BBMP is allowing visitors inside Freedom Park without charging an entry fee.

BangaloreMirror
BBMP has been floating tenders since October 2022 for operation/maintenance of multi-level parking at Freedom Park
NO PARKING
For 8th time civic body invites bidders
POTHOLE FILL
SAME SEX COUPLES' RIGH

Meanwhile, BBMP has been floating tenders since October 2022 for operation/ maintenance of multi-level parking at Freedom Park

Grandmom in dock for marrying off 14-year-old girl

Authorities rescued a young girl from a child marriage, just a day after the ceremony took place, in Sarjapur. The incident came to light when the mother of the 14-year-old girl lodged a complaint with the Sarjapura Police Station. Allegedly, the girl's grandmother orchestrated the marriage between the girl, who is in eighth grade, and a 24-year-old man at a temple in Kaiwara, Chikkaballapur District, without the knowledge or consent of the girl's parents.

Based on the complaint, nine individuals, including the grandmother, relatives, and the groom, were booked for their involvement in the illegal act of performing a child marriage. The charges filed include violations of the Child Marriage Restriction Act and IPC Section 366 (Kidnap), with investigations currently underway.

Reports suggest that the grandmother orchestrated the marriage due to conflicts with the girl's mother over the choice of a husband for the young girl.

Upon registration of the case, officials from the District Child Protection Unit intervened, taking custody of the girl who was married against her will. It was noted that the girl, still in eighth grade, had been staying at her grandmother's house during the school holidays. Geetha, an advocate representing the District Child Protection Unit, highlighted that everyone present at the wedding, including the officiating priest, would be considered as accused in the case. **BMB**

4 men arrested for murder of friend

A 22-year-old city cab driver was murdered near his grandparents' home in Huligondi Village, Chikkamagaluru. The victim, identified as Darshan, was killed by four acquaintances, who were holding a grudge against him from an earlier incident. It is said that at a party in Bengaluru, Darshan had insulted the mother of one of his friends.

The police investigation revealed that both Darshan and the assailants had previously been involved in a case of attempted murder registered at RR Nagar Police Station. They were engaged in festivities in Bengaluru after they were released on bail.

After the party, Darshan stayed with two of his friends at his grandparents' residence. On February 15, two additional friends joined them, resulting in a gruesome attack on Darshan with sharp weapons.

On the day of the incident, Darshan had told his grandfather he was going out with friends before leaving the house. A murder case was filed at Kadur Police Station, leading to the arrest of Darshan's acquaintances: Manoj, Koushik, Kiran, and Raju. **BMB**

Trashgate trouble: Citizens bemoan garbage pileup

Jakkur Main Road residents demand action on unattended garbage and stray dog menace

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Garbage left unattended on Jakkur Road

For many years now, the residents of Jakkur Main Road have been lamenting about a series of civic issues that begin with a huge pile of garbage scattered along the main road.

A mix of organic waste including animal remains from nearby meat shops, plastic, discarded furniture, and construction and demolition waste, locals say the garbage pile adjacent to Jakkur Aerodrome campus is a health hazard waiting to happen.

"This is a classic example of poor solid waste management in the city. We moved to this locality seven years ago and the pile has been there since then. Although garbage is lifted by Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) in the morning, the situation is back to square one by evening. People come in cars and on two-wheelers to throw their garbage. It hardly takes 30 minutes after BBMP's cleaning and the pile starts to rebuild," said Geeta Jacob, a senior citizen living in the area.

Locals say the stretch of around 200 metres is always reeking of decomposing organic matter. The situation has persisted for years despite the presence of two schools on the stretch.

"I have seen children as young as six and seven years old walking on the road with their noses covered. Girls can be seen with scarves around their faces. There is a garment factory nearby and women workers also cross the stretch with scarves blocking the stench. Young children wading through the garbage is a painful sight," said S Ravi Aiyer, another senior citizen in the area.

> **The stray dog population has gone up in the area and they can be seen scavenging during the night**
>
> –A Jakkur Main Road resident

Many highlight BBMP's inefficiency in tackling the plaguing garbage issue in the area, which is leading to stray dog menace, posing a threat to commuters and residents.

"The pile is turning into a health hazard and posing various risks. The stray dog population has gone up in the area and they can be seen scavenging during the night. Moreover, some of the cow herders let their cows loose and you can see them munching on plastics," lamented another resident.

Locals say their repeated complaints and requests to various authorities have fallen on deaf ears so far.

"We have spoken to the area MLA, BBMP officials, the local corporator, etc. However, the issue has not been resolved. Even the schools on the stretch have reached out to BBMP officials on multiple occasions. Intriguingly, Judicial Layout, located hardly at a one-kilometre distance from Jakkur Main Road is spic and span, while we face garbage menace for years altogether," added Aiyer.

When Bangalore Mirror reached out to BBMP officials concerned, they said, "We will clear the spot immediately. Ward marshals have been instructed to impose fines. The stretch has many black spots and people keep disposing of garbage despite our Pourakarmikas cleaning the spot every day. However, link workers have been instructed to sensitise people who dispose of waste indiscriminately."

Speeding: Emoticons alert drivers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been effective since its implementation a week ago, receiving favourable responses."

The city police have initiated the installation of Radar Speed Signboards (RSS) along the Outer Ring Road. While RSS were previously installed, they only displayed vehicle speeds. However, with recent customisation, the new RSS now features changing colours and emoticons to provide instant feedback to drivers.

Sandhya Krishna, a motorist said: "I was pleasantly surprised to see the RSS. Though I didn't know that they were merely warning machines, I had slowed down and even alerted my friends. They are now slowing down on the highway too. Speeding is common on ORR as motorists believe that there is no one to book them. However, the police have been

parking interceptors which acts as a deterrent to speeding vehicles. I am sure the RSS facility will also act as a deterrent for speeding vehicles."

A senior police official said: "The RSS have emerged as a pivotal tool in educating motorists about speeding and promoting safer driving practices. By displaying real-time vehicle speeds, RSS provide immediate feedback to drivers, creating awareness about their driving habits. When motorists observe their speed displayed on the signboards, they are prompted to evaluate their behaviour and adjust their speed accordingly to comply with speed limits. This visual reinforcement serves as a reminder to adhere to traffic regulations and fosters a culture of responsible driving on the roads. Moreover, the placement of RSS in strategic locations, particularly near accident-prone areas and high-speed zones, enhances their effectiveness in educating motorists on the consequences of speeding. The presence of RSS serves as a visible deterrent, reminding drivers of the potential risks associated with excessive speed. By instilling a sense of accountability and encouraging self-regulation among drivers, RSS contribute to the overall goal of reducing accidents and improving road safety."

A few years ago, in an effort to curb accidents caused by speeding, the Bengaluru Traffic Police had installed RSS to display vehicle speeds, encouraging motorists to reduce speed and adhere to limits. Initially, RSS were placed on both sides of the Hebbal-Yelahanka flyover stretch, later expanding to various other locations. Sensors installed along the highway can detect vehicle speeds from a distance of 50 m, primarily focusing on vehicles in the extreme right lane.

A police official highlighted the prevalence of speeding vehicles on the Devanahalli airport road, despite the presence of interceptors. To address this, RSS installations were done to encourage speed reduction. Sources indicate the traffic police's intention to deploy RSS every five to six kilometres before accident-prone areas to enhance safety measures.

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Lights out
Brigade Road

There have been constant blackouts for the past three days due to malfunctioning street lights.

Leaf collection
Yelahanka New Town

Irregular sweeping has resulted in accumulated dry leaves which need to be cleared.

No parking here
Kalasipalyam

On the 15-ft road, behind Giresh Hotel, near the bus stand, vehicles are parked on the road, causing inconvenience for both residents and motorists.

Sunny side up

Saturday was a sunny day and many umbrellas were out as summer seems to have come crashing to Bengaluru

White-topping plan at breakneck speed?

Budget boost for concrete roads and BBMP's commitment towards project raises question: Is it really worth it?

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File photo of a recent cave-in of a white-topped road at the Kensington signal junction in Halasur

Despite criticisms, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) plans to convert many more black-topped roads into white topped. The civic agency has got a shot in the arm with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah batting for white-topped roads. On Friday in his budget speech, the CM said, "The Government will undertake various initiatives to reduce traffic congestion in Bengaluru on priority basis using additional source that are been mobilised by BBMP: After assuming power, our Government has accorded approval for white-topping works of major roads of 147 km length at a cost of Rs. 1,700 crore. These works will be completed before December 2025."

Reacting to this, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said that they are focusing on white-topping road because of its durability.

"Bad condition of roads is a major issue in Bengaluru. We are spending crores of rupees on maintenance of black topped roads and yet we are unable to satisfy commuters. Looking at our traffic congestion, there is a need to strengthen the road and hence we have taken up white topping in phases and in the future also many more roads will be white-topped."

Civic activists say that the BBMP should not concretise all the roads as white topping is not an 'ever lasting solution'. They point to instances of sink-ins of roads that have been concretised and stress on need to ensure quality of work

Currently, BBMP has white-topped 102 km of roads and is now working on concretising 134 km of roads at a cost of Rs 1,700 crore. Of Rs 1,700 crore, the State Government will provide Rs 800 crore.

Funding question

The big question is how will the BBMP manage to mop up Rs 900 crore required for the white topping as the State government's financial support is limited to Rs 800 crore. Nath said, "In our budget, we have saved money on various fronts.

We have saved around Rs 400 crore under different heads and another Rs 400 crore will be drawn from an ESCROW account and we will manage to have sufficient funds and then call bids for concretisation."

However, activists say that the BBMP should not concretise all the roads as white topping is not an 'ever lasting solution'. Sandesh Kumar, a civic activist, said that earlier black topped roads would cave in due to hollow layers beneath. "It was believed that white-topped roads were strong as it has a strong concrete reinforcement at the bottom, However, a few white topped roads too caved in recently. This means that the 'poor quality' of whitetopping roads has been exposed once again," he said.

The whitetopping on a road near Adugodi signal caved in recently and upon inspection by authorities, they were surprised to find that the concrete road was actually hollow, leading to a two-feet pit. "This road was laid a couple of years ago. We were really surprised to see the quality of the road. This raises questions about why crores of rupees are being spent to build poor quality roads," he said.

Convention for unity: 'Efforts to undermine Constitution must be thwarted'

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday said the Constitution belongs to every citizen of the country and efforts to undermine its foundations must be thwarted.

While speaking to reporters here in connection with the National Unity Convention, Siddaramaiah said some people have no faith and respect for the Constitution and hence, they are misleading people.

"The principles of secularism, equality and fraternity are the foundations of the constitution. It is the responsibility of every citizen to thwart attempts to undermine it," Siddaramaiah said.

Several rights mentioned in the Constitution would not have been possible without struggle, he said. "It has been 77 years since independence and 75 years since the Constitution was adopted, but not everyone has got all the rights," the chief minister said.

Even after all these years, inequality has not yet gone away from our society, he pointed out.

"Everyone should be aware of this. There should be awareness about economic and social equality which has been given by the Constitution...Don't sit idle by saying it's not given," Siddaramaiah said.

The Karnataka government is organising a statewide 'Constitution Awareness Jatha' (mass awareness) from January 26 to February 23 to mark the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Indian Constitution.

As part of the Constitution and National Unity Convention, Constitution Conference and Expo will be organised on February 24 and 25 morning, and a mega Constitution Awareness Convention on February 25.

Several renowned speakers and thinkers are expected to participate in the event.

Noting that awareness of law is low in our country, Siddaramaiah said many people do not know about the Constitution. Every citizen of the country should know about our Constitution, and whether the rights given by the Constitution are being properly implemented, he stressed.

"Some people have no faith and respect for the Constitution. Hence, they are misleading people," he said.

Highlighting that it is the duty of the government to create awareness about the Constitution, the CM said, "The Constitution enunciates tolerance and coexistence, but is it being upheld? Is 'Sab Ka Saath, Sab Ka Vikas' really happening?"

"If there is commitment and clarity in creating awareness about the Constitution, no one can mislead us. About 78 percent of people are educated. But, even today educated people still believe in superstitions. We have no knowledge of rationality," he said, as he urged people to understand the difference between what is right and wrong. **PTI**

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

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STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

The hills are alive

The magical light of dawn over the hills of Gopinatham.

The picture was clicked by BM reader **NJ Ravi Chander**

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B'luru's real estate rental market defies global trends

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Amidst the global economic slowdown, India's real estate market has defied all odds, experiencing a surge over the last two years. The rental market, in particular, has been a hotspot for investors, witnessing a boom that has beaten global counterparts. The net rental yield in India stands as one of the highest globally, with some major cities showcasing a remarkable rent increase of 30 per cent and above.

Bengaluru, the IT capital of India, has emerged as a focal point for this real estate upswing. Housing rents in the city have experienced a staggering 24 per cent average inflation, with certain areas witnessing an even more remarkable 30 per cent spike. This surge is primarily attributed to the reopening of offices in major cities, driving demand for properties around IT parks and office hubs. Rental inflation for residential units near offices and in gated societies in Bangalore is between 25-40 per cent and around 17-18 per cent overall.

According to NoBroker, average rental inflation in India has surpassed that in Singapore and Dubai. The average rental inflation in Singapore has been around 29 per cent and Dubai has been 20 per cent Y-O-Y. However, it is interesting to note that net rental inflation in India is higher than in these countries, with some pockets of major cities witnessing an exponential rent increase of 30 per cent and above. The demand-supply dynamics are a crucial factor influencing this surge. While demand has skyrocketed, especially in cities like Mumbai and Bangalore with new metro corridors, the supply is struggling to keep pace. Proximity to these metro corridors has led to a 15-18 per cent rent inflation in these cities.

Other major cities, including Hyderabad and Chennai, have also witnessed substantial increases in housing rents. Chennai recorded an average rent inflation of 18 per cent, closely followed by Hyderabad at 16 per cent. Some pockets in Hyderabad even experienced a remarkable rental spike of up to 25 per cent.

According to the NoBroker annual survey, a whopping 86 per cent of landlords are considering purchasing a second property to capitalise on this lucrative market. Saurabh Garg, Co-founder & Chief Business Officer of NoBroker.com, shed light on the factors contributing to this phenomenon. "The work-from-home trend, which initially kept rental inflation low in cities like San Francisco, has shifted with the return of people to offices in Bengaluru. Construction halts during the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the real estate supply chain, leading to a supply-demand mismatch post-COVID. This, coupled with increased demand from bachelors transitioning from paying guest accommodations to houses, has fuelled the rental inflation."

This apart Garg pointed out that it is necessary to meet the demand but the supply comes with a gap as it takes time for the builders for over two or more years. although the supply is coming in, it is still falling short.

DID YOU KNOW?

Established in 1962 in Cubbon Park, Bengaluru, the Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum (VITM) honours Sir M Visvesvaraya. Inaugurated by Jawaharlal Nehru, it showcases industrial products, scientific models, and engines across 43,000 sq ft. The museum's first exhibition, themed on Electricity, opened to the public in 1965. In 1970, VITM introduced the Mobile/Moving Science Exhibition (MSE) with 24 participatory exhibits.
By 1978, VITM, along with other science museums, joined the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM). An extension in 1979 expanded the museum to 74,000 sq ft, enhancing its capacity for scientific exploration and education.

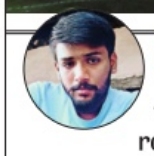
GET HEARD WITH MIRROR 9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

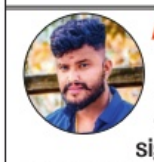
where Bengalureans speak their mind

Do you think the average speed on Bengaluru roads have decreased over years?

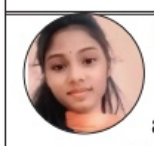


Chidambara, BM reader
Yes, Bengaluru's rapid population growth significantly impacts road speed. Vehicle surge causes congestion, slowing traffic. Urbanisation and development worsen gridlock. Short commutes now take hours.

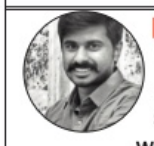
Sinchana, BM reader
Infrastructure lags behind Bengaluru's expansion, leading to congestion. Limited public transport forces car use, worsening traffic. Tech hubs like Electronic City suffer heavy traffic.



Ajay, BM reader
The decrease in the average speed on Bengaluru roads is evident due to various factors. One significant issue is the lack of effective last-mile connectivity, which forces people to rely more on private vehicles for commuting, adding to traffic congestion.



Pooja, BM reader
Traffic declines due to rule-breaking, construction delays, and arterial congestion. Major roads overwhelmed, contributing to slowdowns. Moreover, major arterial roads like MG Road and Hosur Road face heavy traffic volumes, resulting in significant slowdowns.



Nagesh, BM reader
Commercial activity increases goods vehicles, reduces lane space. Events and parking issues worsen congestion. Travel times slowed by traffic density.

Kavitha, BM reader
Few alternate routes cause bottlenecks and longer commutes. Urban sprawl and distances add to travel times. Slow traffic impacts air quality and well-being.

SPEAK TO US

What are your thoughts on Bengaluru's startup culture and its impact on the city's economy and job market?

If you want to be featured in this section tomorrow, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, by 5 pm today, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation and a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Stomach bug catching them young

BM HEALTH

Hospitals recording spike in acute gastroenteritis among kids

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Doctors says to prevent infections, it's crucial to wash hands with soap before meals

City hospitals have raised an alarm regarding increasing stomach bug cases, also known as Acute Gastroenteritis (AGE), among children.

Paediatricians say there is a sudden surge of AGE cases and on average 60% to 70% of the children admitted are due to gastroenteritis. The bug is presenting with severe abdominal pain, vomiting, dehydration, and fever. Patients are becoming sick and exhibiting shock-like conditions.

"In the past week, three out of every five cases are children being admitted due to gastroenteritis. About 60% of OPD consultations in the last week at our hospital have been for these symptoms," said Dr Aravind A, consultant - paediatrics, Aster Women and Children Hospital, Whitefield.

While the infection can affect anyone, it is more common among children between six months and 16 years, say the hospitals. Younger children, especially those under the age of five, are facing higher risks due to difficulty in expressing symptoms and being more prone to dehydration. Infants are at higher risk due to underdeveloped immune systems.

Patients are coming in with symptoms of vomiting, nausea, loose watery stools, sometimes blood in stools, and high-grade fever.

"In severe conditions, we see irritability, extreme thirst, sunken eyes, decreased urine quantity, lethargy, refusal to take feeds, shock, seizure, dull and pale child. All mild to moderate dehydration children can be managed on an outpatient basis. Severe dehydration is an emergency that needs admission and inpatient care. So far we have seen around seven out of ten cases of acute gastroenteritis," said Dr Lakshmileela, consultant pediatrician, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Hebbal.

Reasons for surge

According to healthcare professionals, the reasons behind this surge in cases can be contaminated water and viral or bacterial infections commonly found in communal settings such as schools or daycare centers. Doctors say contaminated water especially harbors pathogenic microorganisms like bacteria such as Escherichia coli, Salmonella, or Campylobacter and viruses such as norovirus or rotavirus), which cause gastroenteritis in children when ingested.

Another reason for the spread can also be viral fevers such as flu in children.

"These days there is an increase in flu-like illnesses which also could be the culprit behind gastroenteritis. Viruses like norovirus and rotavirus affect children by directly infecting the gastrointestinal tract. Fever especially weakens the body's immune response and can lead to inflammation of the gut lining, increasing susceptibility to other infections. This weakened immune state can also make children more prone to bacterial contamination from food or water, further exacerbating gastroenteritis symptoms," said Dr Aravind.

An increase in consumption of street food and poor personal hygiene, like not washing hands properly, can lead to food and water contamination, causing various viral infections, which are often seasonal.

> **Viruses like norovirus and rotavirus affect children by directly infecting the gastrointestinal tract**
> –Dr Aravind A

"To prevent these infections, it's crucial to wash hands with soap before meals and after using the bathroom. Food should be well cooked and handled properly. Timely immunisations, especially for diseases like rotavirus and typhoid, are also important to keep such infections at bay," said Dr Shruthi Badarinath Pranav, consultant paediatrics and paediatric gastroenterology, SPARSH Hospital, RR Nagar.

Traffic block: SC to hear CM's plea on FIR on Monday

The Supreme Court is slated to hear on Monday the plea filed by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah seeking quashing of an FIR lodged against him and other Congress leaders in connection with blocking a road during a protest in 2022.

As per the details published on the website of the apex court, a bench of Justices Hrishikesh Roy and Prashant Kumar Mishra will take up the special leave petition for hearing on February 19.

The plea before the apex court challenges the decision of the Karnataka High Court dismissing the petition filed by CM Siddaramaiah and others seeking quashing of trial proceedings in the Special Court.

Imposing a cost of Rs 10,000 on each of the petitioners, a bench of Justice Krishna S. Dixit of the Karnataka High Court on February 6 ordered CM Siddaramaiah to remain present before the MPs/MLAs Court on February 26.

Rapping the Congress leaders, the High Court said that blocking the road because one is a representative of the people cannot be accepted.

The FIR was booked against CM Siddaramaiah and other Congress leaders with Bengaluru's High Grounds police station on April 14, 2022.

The Congress party had organised a protest over a suicide case of a contractor Santhosh Patil and had demanded the resignation of then Minister KS Eshwarappa. During the protest, traffic was thrown out of gear on the busy Race Course Road. The traffic had come to halt for several kilometres causing severe inconvenience to the public.

The police had lodged an FIR on charges of blocking roads causing traffic jams, affecting the law and order system. The CM and others had approached the High Court seeking quashing of the NBW issued by the Special Court and proceedings against them in the trial court. —IANS

A lot is happening at Bengaluru Open 2024

KAUSHIK JN

It was an experience worth cherishing for the 60 budding players who got to pick the brains of some of the top tennis stars participating in the Bengaluru Open 2024 here during a special clinic organised by the Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association (KSLTA) on Friday.

India's Davis Cup member Saketh Myneni, Oriol Roco Batalla of Spain and Frenchman Constantin B Kouzmine along with the coaches of the players in action this week in Bengaluru, had a hit with these players and shared tips on how to improve their game with a focus on how to up their game, as per a press release from Bengaluru Open. "It is always fun to interact with so many kids and I am very happy to see so many young kids come out and play tennis," said Myneni.

Harshini N, a top-ranked Under-18 player from Karnataka who is also playing on the ITF circuit, was understandably elated to get a chance to play with the top players. "I got to ask them a few questions. It was a wonderful experience," she added.

Bengaluru Open is being organised by the Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association (KSLTA). The ATP Challenger event began on February 12 and will conclude on February 18.

Budding players get to meet top tennis stars at event; India's Sumit Nagal stays on course for crown

India's Sumit Nagal (pic) stayed on course for a back-to-back Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Challenger crown as he got the better of Adam Walton in straight sets in the quarterfinals on Friday.

The Indian, who broke into the world top-100 after a title triumph in Chennai last week, was tested by Walton in the opening set but kept his composure under pressure to register a 7-5, 6-2 win and set up a semi-final clash against 7th seed Stephano Napolitano of Italy.. Napolitano defeated Tunisia's Moez Echargui 6-7(5), 6-4, 6-4 in the other quarterfinal. It was, however, a heartbreak for another Indian in the draw, Ramkumar Ramanathan, as he went down against 9th seed Seongchan Hong of South Korea. —ANI

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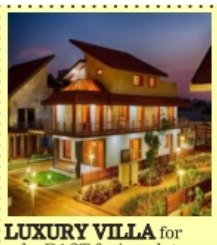

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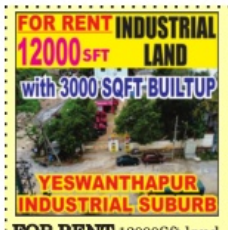

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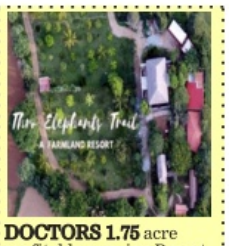

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Activists welcome vaccine, oppose microchipping

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

streets and ABCs, BBMP foresees the problem of double vaccination. To resolve the problem, BBMP plans on reviving its previously cancelled project of microchipping street dogs.

"The street dogs are vaccinated with the combined vaccine and left in the same area. When the same dog reaches the ABC, they could get vaccinated again.

To solve this issue, we are planning to microchip the strays. It is a globally approved method and would help prevent double vaccination. A 1 mm microchip will be inserted in the neck of the street dog so that you will be able to view details about the date of surgery, vaccination, combined vaccination, and so on.

It would also simplify the dog census work and you could just scan the microchip for the street dog survey. It could also help in relocating street dogs back to their home area," the official added.

According to a source at the BBMP, due to pressure from animal activists, the then special commissioner (health) Trilok Chandra had dropped the microchipping plan.

The new special commissioner Surolkar Vikas Kishore, however, has given the green light for the project after holding public consultation with animal activists and other stakeholders.

While animal activists appreciated the move to provide the combined vaccine, they opposed microchipping.

"Microchipping is not permitted for street dogs as per Animal Birth Control Rules 2023 but is permitted for pet dogs as per Pet Shop rules. The BBMP has not sought permission from the Animal Welfare Board of India nor has it consulted with the Animal Birth Control Monitoring Committee. It never constituted an Animal Birth Control Monitoring Committee as per Supreme Court order 2016.

There is no need for microchipping dogs and can simply be painted after vaccination and sent to ABCs. Ideally one month before sterilisation, the dogs should be vaccinated. ABC-ARV should be conducted as per SC directive and not as per BBMP's whims," said Arun Prasad, Bengaluru Urban district SPCA member.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Ammal Thangam Raja Ramiah 70 yrs R/a 54, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar CV Raman Nagar, Bangalore-93 have changed my name as Thangam Raja R A vide affidavit dated 16.02.2024 Sworn before notary: B Seshagiri, Bangalore

I Padmavathi Lakshmanpoojari W/o, Rahul Krishna.K, R/o No 55, 2nd B Cross, Near Mysore Road, new Timber Yard Layout, telecom Colony bengaluru 560026, have changed my name to Padma Poojari for all purposes.

I, Mohammed Nasir Shariff R/O NO.3 1st floor, Rathan Singh Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore 560005 has changed my minor sons name from Mohammed Ibrahim to Mohammed Ibrahim Nasir for all purpose by affidavit sworn before S.Samuel Solomon public notary dated 13/02/2024

I Niranjana S C W/o Uday N R/o Chaitanya Grand,3rd Cross Raghavendra layout Basapura Rd, Electronic City Post, B'lore-100, have changed my name to Niranjana U for all purpose.

I, Lakshmi Arumugam D/o Rajamanikam R/o 58/73 Vikas Nagar RK TWP Yarandahalli Bommasandra Bengaluru-560 105 have changed my name to Grace Mary.R for all purposes

I, Poorvi Anil Kumar Shah R/o Flat No 6 B E1 FernHill Garden Apartment, Sector 6 HSR Layout Outer ring Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560102 have changed my name to Poorvi Shah Patel

I state that, my name is entered as HIMATH LAL S/o Manji Patel in Aadhar Card, Pan Card, etc. and HIMATH MANJI PATEL S/o. MANJI RAMJI PATEL in the property No: 31, Plot No 46, Property ID No: 155250090210090080 4, situated at manchakal kuppe Hirehalli Grama Panchayathi, Tumkur Taluk Tumkur District, I, Himath Lal S/o Manji Patel, residing at Tumkur road, Nelamangala Town, New Krishna Sawmill, Visveswara pura, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Karnataka State, here by declare that Himath Lal S/o Manji Patel & Himath Manji Patel S/o Manji Ramji Patel both the names belongs to me only, vide affidavit dt 07.02.2024 before notary R. Lakshmi narayana, Nelamangala town.

MY name is Al Mohannad Usama Bastawi as mentioned in my old passport number F1760638, I'm hereby changing my name to Al Mohannad Bastavi to align it as per all my official documents in my new passport.

I MEHABOOB PASHA NOORUDDIN S/o NOOR UDDEEN R/o Syed Pasha Makan Vasavi Hostel Opp Kothi Thopu Tumku- 572102 have changed my name to MAHABOOB PASHA for all purposes

I, L.R Sharada W/o K. Lokesh Reddy R/o 17/18,Eshwara nilaya 6th cross, 2nd main road, sanjeevininagara hegganahalli Bangalore 560091 KA have changed my name to K.G.Sharada for all purposes before notary R. Shivannachari Dt.15/02/2024

I, Akanksha W/o Kunal Kumar R/o 13d Aspen Block ,regency Pinnacle Heights,rachanahalli, shivarama Karanth Nagar, bengaluru 560077 have changed my name to Akanksha Singhh for all purposes.

I, SYED RAFEEQ AHAMED, S/o Syed Abdul Azeez aged 55 years R/a Khadripura Village, Post Kolar-563101. I, have changed my name to, SYED RAFEEQ AHMED, Vide affidavit, dated 15/02/2024 Sworn before Notary: H Krishnegowda. Kolar

HEALTH TIP: Millet has high nutrition, which strengthens the body's immunity, and also provides strength to fight diseases

Menopausal women who regularly swim in cold water report significant improvements to their physical and mental symptoms such as anxiety, hot flushes

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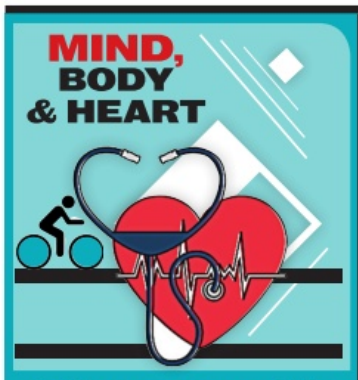

All you need to know about...

Coping with anger issues

Identify the main causes for anger
Identifying the root cause of anger problems and deciding to work on it is one of the most effective ways to deal with anger issues.

Breath control
Deep breaths and relaxation. It can help you control your anger and prevent things from getting worse, and it can be done anywhere, at any time. Some helpful techniques include taking deep breaths, practising positive affirmations, and engaging in positive visual imagery.

Educate yourself
Self-education about anger management is readily available through a variety of therapy, self-help books, and workshops.

Relax your muscles
It needs to be pumped out – Nonstrenuous, slow yoga-like exercises can relax your muscles, make you feel much calmer, and improve your ability to deal with anger issues.

Cognitive restructuring to change how you think
Change your thoughts, alter your approach to a situation that enrages you, consider it from multiple angles, and believe that every problem has a solution. Train your mind to view the current situation as a manageable experience, rather than a source of anger.

Enhance your communication skills
Angry people tend to jump to conclusions and act accordingly, despite the fact that some of these conclusions can be highly inaccurate. When in a heated discussion, the first step is to consider your response carefully. Instead of saying the first thing that comes to mind, take your time and carefully consider what you want to say. Likewise, listen attentively to the other person's story and take the time to respond. —**Femina**

WHAT SMELLS DELISH?

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HARMONY SPLASH MOCKTAIL

INGREDIENTS:
- 1/2 cup pomegranate juice
- 1/2 cup coconut water
- 1/2 cup green apple juice
- 1 oz simple syrup (adjust to taste)
- Ice cubes
- Mint leaves and pomegranate arils for garnish

METHOD
- Prepare Glass: Chill a tall glass and add a few ice cubes.
- **Layering:** Carefully pour the pomegranate juice into the glass as the first layer.
- Gently pour the coconut water over the back of a spoon to create the second layer.
- Lastly, pour the green apple juice over the back of a spoon to create the third layer.
- **Sweeten:** Add simple syrup to taste, and give it a gentle stir to blend the flavors.
- **Garnish:**Garnish the mocktail with a few mint leaves and a sprinkle of pomegranate arils on top.

By Ashish Tamta, Mixologist, UNO Izakaya, JW Marriott Hotel

FINGER MILLET (RAGI) BREAKFAST CREPES WITH FRESH BERRIES

INGREDIENTS
- Finger millet flour (Ragi) – 240 gms
- Milk – 350 ml
- Eggs – 1 No.
- Melted butter – 2 tablespoons
- Icing Sugar – 35 gms
- Baking powder – 10gms
- Orange zest – 5gms
- Cinnamon powder – 5gms
- Vanilla extract – 1 teaspoon
- **For filling :** Banana – 1 No.
- Jaggery – 20 gms
- Fennel powder – 1 pinch
- **For Plating :** Fresh berries – (strawberries, blueberries, cherries, raspberries, etc.)
- Whipped cream
- Mint leaves – For garnish
- Maple syrup, for drizzling

METHOD
- In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the finger millet flour, sugar, orange zest, cinnamon and baking powder.
- In another bowl, beat the eggs with milk, melted butter and vanilla extract.
- Gradually pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients, whisking constantly, until you have a smooth thin batter.
- Heat a non-stick skillet over medium heat. Lightly grease the pan with butter.
- Pour a small amount of batter onto the pan and quickly tilt the pan in a circular motion to spread the batter evenly, forming a thin crepe.
- Cook the crepe for about 1-2 minutes and the bottom is golden brown. Flip the crepe and cook for an additional 1-2 minutes on the other side.
- Filling -On the other side, melt butter in a pan along with jaggery powder, add chopped bananas and flavor it with fennel powder. Cook it for 3-4 mins and use it as a filling for ragi crepes.
- Once all the crepes are cooked and stuffed, serve them warm topped with fresh berries, fresh mint and a drizzle of maple syrup along with whipped cream.

Recipe by – Sajid Patel, Executive Chef Sheraton Grand Bangalore Hotel at Brigade Gateway

PATIALA SHAHI KUKKAD

INGREDIENTS
- Chicken Thigh and drumsticks 500gms
- Onion 300gms
- Tomatoes 500gms
- Ginger Garlic Paste 50gms
- Dried Red Chili 0.5gm
- Black Cumin 2gms
- Cinnamon 1gm
- Cardamom 3gms
- Black Cardamom 1gm
- Black Pepper 1gm
- Cloves 2gm
- Kashmiri Chili Powder 15gms
- Turmeric Powder 7gms
- Coriander Powder 10gms
- Dry Fenugreek leaves 0.5gm
- Garam Masala Powder 5gms
- Eggs 1no.
- Salt to taste
- Clarified Butter 20ml
- Fresh Cream 10ml
- Fresh Coriander 3gms
- Ginger 1 inch
- Green Chilies 5gms

METHOD
- Wash the chicken and marinate the chicken with ginger garlic paste, salt and red chili powder.
- For the gravy, separately puree half tomatoes and cook it with all the whole spices mentioned above for at least 20 to 25 mins on low flame.
- Chop the remaining tomatoes and onion along with some garlic and green chilies.
- In a kadhai, heat some clarified butter and add black cumin to it followed by adding chopped garlic. Sauté the garlic till it becomes golden brown.
- Then add chopped onion and let it cook till it becomes translucent. Then add some chopped tomatoes and green chilies to it and cook for another 2- 3mins on medium flame.
- After that add the marinated chicken and sear it till it gets golden crust on both sides.
- Also while searing add all the dry spices and cook it for a while. Then add the whisked egg to the pan and let it get scrambled.
- Finally add the tomatoes gravy after staining it and cook for a while till the ghee oozes out from the sides.
- Check the seasoning by adding salt and finish it with crushed dried fenugreek leaves, a pinch of garam masala and fresh cream.
- Serve hot in a bowl and garnish it with some ginger

by Sous chef, Mehul Khanna, JW Marriott hotel Bengaluru

 # Dangal's child actor dies at 19
Actor Suhani Bhatnagar, who played young Babita Phogat in Aamir Khan-starrer wresting drama "Dangal", has died at the age of 19

Rosy picture

Rashmika's reaction as fan presents her rose

Rashmika Mandanna found herself at the receiving end of a delightful surprise from a devoted fan recently.

The actress, known for her grace and charisma, blushed with joy as a fan presented her with a red rose, while she was on her way to shoot an episode of Neha Dhupia's talk show. The captivating video capturing the proposal has now gone viral.

Rashmika, looking effortlessly chic, donned a black collared crop top paired with stylish bell-bottom jeans, accentuating her million-dollar smile.

Rashmika Mandanna, celebrated for her versatile roles and engaging performances, boasts an impressive fan following both in Bollywood and the South Indian film industry.

Currently riding high on the success of her recently released film 'Animal,' where she shared the screen with Ranbir Kapoor, Rashmika Mandanna is not slowing down. She is actively shooting for the highly anticipated 'Pushpa 2: The Rule,' reprising her iconic role as Srivalli opposite the charismatic Allu Arjun.

The film, written and directed by Sukumar, follows the blockbuster success of its predecessor, 'Pushpa: The Rise,' released in 2021. Meanwhile, the 'Animal' star has several highly anticipated projects in the pipeline. Some of the most awaited ones include 'Rainbow', 'Chhaava', 'Ek Saath Do Do', and many others. **— ETimes**

Talent getting noticed now

South star Priyamani says "Jawan" and "The Family Man" have made her popular in Hindi cinema with better opportunities coming her way.

The actor, who is fluent in different languages, is already an established star in the south and won the National Film Award for her role in "Paruthiveeran".

"I feel honoured that makers not only from your industry but from other industries are willing to have you on board because they believe in your talent. It feels great that talent is being recognised everywhere and people (actors) are getting more opportunities. It's good that we are being recognised on a national level," the Bengaluru-based actor told PTI.

Priyamani's stint in Hindi cinema began with a cameo in Mani Ratnam's bilingual movie, 'Raavan', followed by a dance number in Chennai Express', but it was her OTT debut show, "The Family Man", that led to her becoming famous with Hindi audiences. "Earlier, they (people) had to take a second look at me to think if I was the same girl from 'The Family Man'. But now the popularity is growing more, so every time I walk, people are like, 'Oh it's you'," she said. —PTI

AI's voice: SPB's son issues legal notice

SP Kalyan Charan, noted Tamil singer and son of legendary singer late S. P. Balasubrahmanyam (SPB), has issued a legal notice to producers of Telugu film 'Keeda Cola' and its music director Vivek Sagar for recreating his father's voice through Artificial Intelligence (AI).

SPB passed away due to Covid-19 related complications in 2020. In a press statement, S. P. Charan said: "While we really love how technology is used to its fullest potential to give his voice a posthumous life, the family is disheartened when the same technology is utilised without our knowledge, consent, or authorisation for commercial exploitation."

He said that this was admitted by the music director in an interview to a YouTube channel and Spotify page 'Permit Room', published on November 28, 2023.

Charan said that this was a shocker to the family as no consent or permission was taken, and that if such a trend of using AI for commercial exploitation continues in the industry, several present day singers and musicians whose livelihood depends on music, will be at peril.

SPB's son said that a legal notice was issued on January 18, 2024, to the concerned parties for unethical and unlawful use of late singer's voice, seeking an apology, damages, and a share in royalties.

The legal notice had called them for a meeting to arrive at an amicable resolution. **—IANS**

Oscar nominee again after 47 years

Acclaimed actress-filmmaker Jodie Foster finds it is "cool" that there's been 47 years between her first Oscar nomination for 'Taxi Driver' and her most recent for 'Nyad'.

The 61-year-old actress was recently shortlisted for the Best Actress in a Supporting Role accolade for her work on 'Nyad', an biographical sports drama film about swimmer Diana Nyad's multiple attempts in the early 2010s to swim the Straits of Florida, with flashbacks to her early life.

Jodie, whose first nomination was for 'Taxi Driver' in 1976, told The Rake: "Oh, really. That's cool, I like that statistic. Look, I worked in the sixties, the seventies, the eighties, the nineties, the noughts, the tens and the twenties... That's amazing, all those different eras."

The 'True Detective' actress became the youngest double Oscar winner in history when she was 29, taking Best Actress in a Leading Role for 'The Accused' in 1988 and 'Silence of the Lambs' in 1991 and she appreciated the freedom of being able to take her career in her own direction, including choosing more unorthodox roles and directing her first movie, 'Little Man Tate', reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The actress said: "When I hit 30, which was also a really happy time, I think I'd achieved the boxes I'd set out (to tick) for myself. I was like, OK, now what do I do?"

Jodie, who was also nominated for Best Actress in a Leading Role for 'Nell' in 1994, was just six years old when she began her acting career and she's always been passionate about film. **— IANS**

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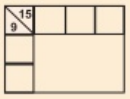
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

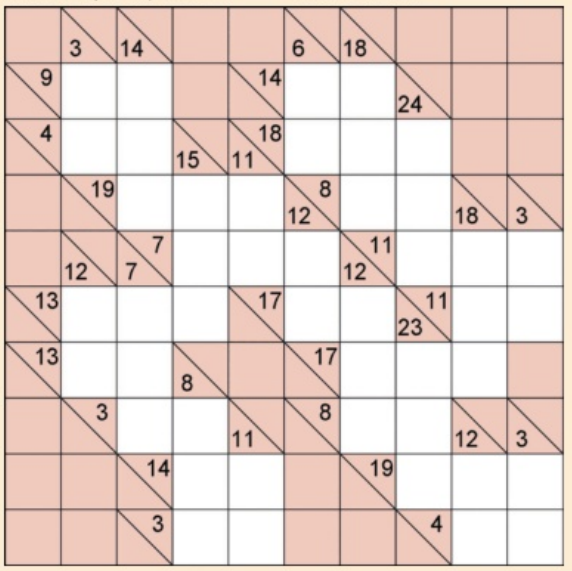
3,2 = 11; 4,6 = 62;
5,7 = 87; 7,9 = ?

Kakuro

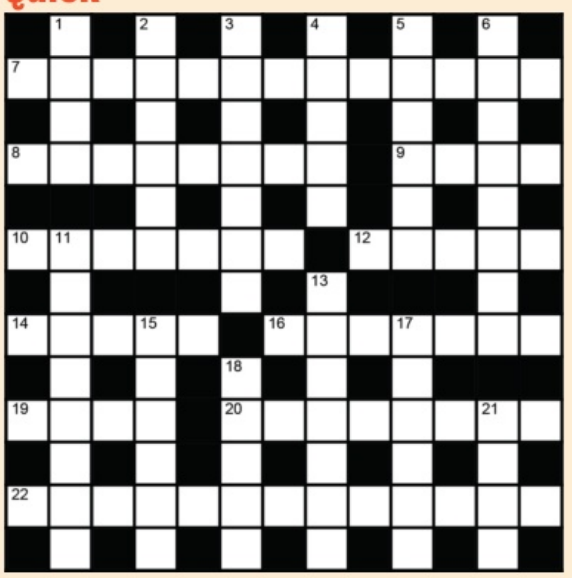
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 In __ __ __ : absolutely ship-shape? (5-3,5)
8 Prepare an army for war (8)
9 Piece of work (4)
10 Retirement allowance (7)
12 Cake topping (5)
14 Emotional states (5)
16 Jumps about playfully (7)
19 Ex-Tennis champ Arthur ___ (4)
20 Comes to awareness (8)
22 Late shehnai maestro from Varanasi (9,4)

DOWN

1 Furry dog Lhasa ____ (4)
2 Braids of hair (6)
3 Greek character–"up in sol" anagram? (7)
4 Used an axe? (5)
5 Reviewer (6)
6 Depending on or varying with climatic changes (8)
11 Self-centred (8)
13 Restaurant at the Leela Place (7)
15 Lackadaisical (6)
17 Basic house-building units (6)
18 Question intensely (5)
21 Flair or zest (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: V EQUALS G

BRDC LCS FNTO KCWNQDC FYCA YNUC DMLCFYRSV FM DNA; JMMTD, KCWNQDC FYCA YNUC FM DNA DMLCFYRSV

Linemaro

1 universe, 9 planets, 204 countries, 809 islands, 7 seas, and I had the privilege to meet you

Mindchow

Politicians are people who, when they see light at the end of the tunnel, go out and buy more tunnel

Joke of the day

When you die at 72, no matter what you die of, it's natural causes. Even if you get hit by a truck. 'Cause if you was younger, you'd have got out the way

Loop

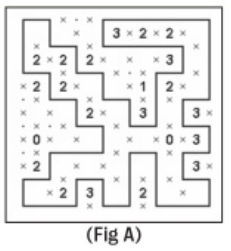
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

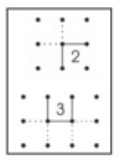
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

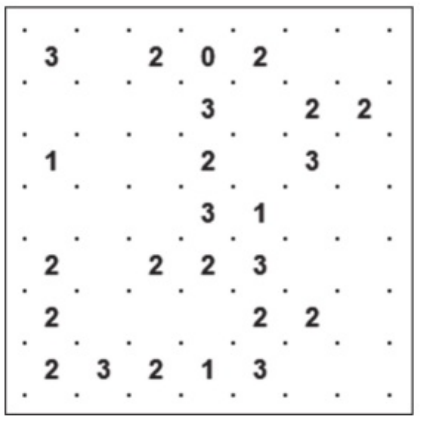
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



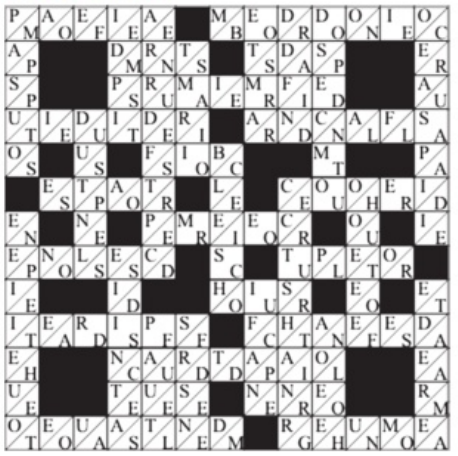
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



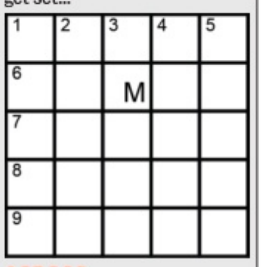
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

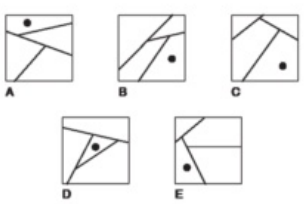
1 A race; 6 Melon;
7 True I; 8 Mines;
9 Purse

DOWN

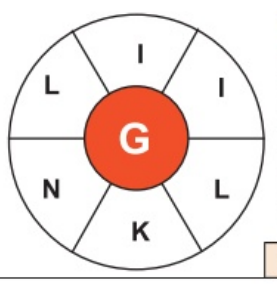
1 A slum; 2 Tripe;
3 Me ere; 4 On cur;
5 Sane I

Mensapuzzle

Which square below has most in common with the square on right?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		5	8		2	3		
2		4	9		3	8		6
3								7
			2	8	7			
		8				6		
			6	5	1			
1								2
8		3	1		5	9		4
		2	4		6	7		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

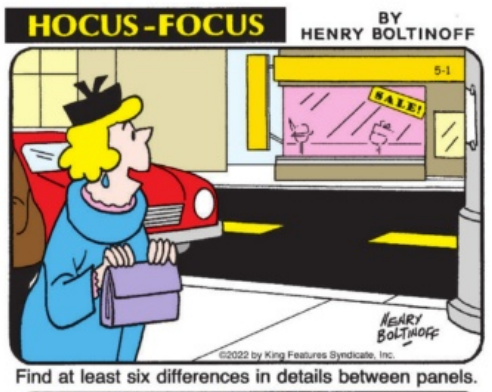
Easy = 28
3 8 8 9

Medium = 3
3 4 4 8

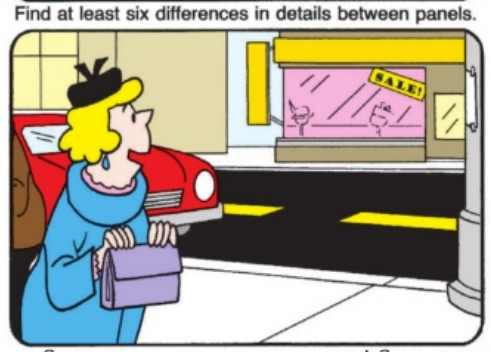
Hard = 52
4 8 8 7

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



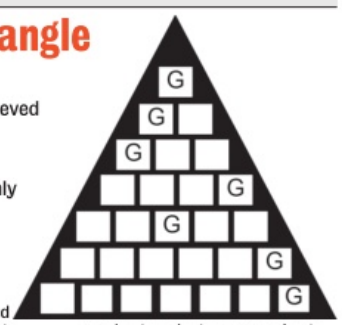
Differences: 1. Car grille is smaller. 2. Vertical sign is smaller. 3. Hat is different. 4. Line in sidewalk is moved. 5. Base of signpost is shorter. 6. Line in street is longer

Riddler

A prisoner he might appear, Not gagged but strongly bound. Forced to tell his tale again, He does and makes no sound. His questioner just sits and stares And nothing's ever heard. He's then released because, in truth, He's told them every word. Who or what is he?

Alpha triangle

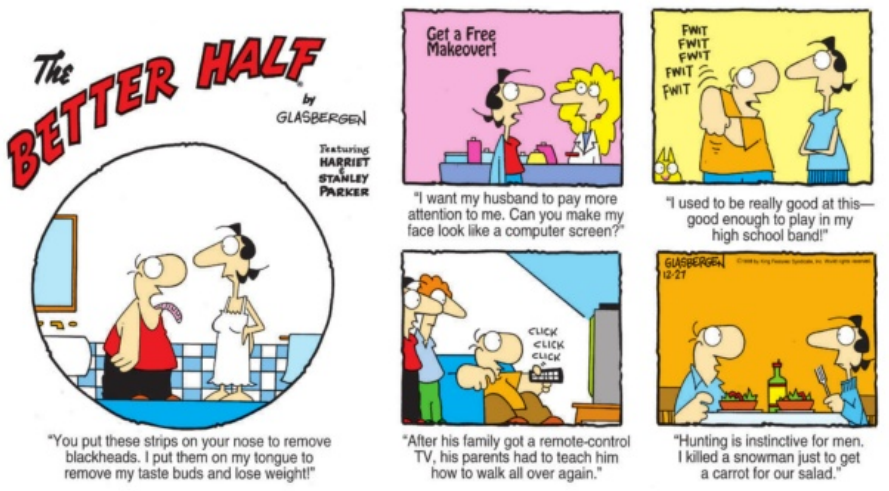
1 7th letter
2 Depart
3 Received or retrieved
4 Secret society
5 Metal bar
6 Excursion
7 Beating thoroughly



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
"You put these strips on your nose to remove blackheads. I put them on my tongue to remove my taste buds and lose weight!"
Get a Free Makeover!
"I want my husband to pay more attention to me. Can you make my face look like a computer screen?"
FWIT FWIT FWIT FWIT FWIT
"I used to be really good at this—good enough to play in my high school band!"
CLICK CLICK CLICK
"After his family got a remote-control TV, his parents had to teach him how to walk all over again."
GLASBERGEN 12-27
"Hunting is instinctive for men. I killed a snowman just to get a carrot for our salad."

BABY BLUES™
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
WHY DOES IT LOOK LIKE MY CLOTHES WERE PUT AWAY BY A NINJA?
DR. HANS ZARKOV
ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN... AN INVALUABLE ALLY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST MING.
ZASK!
FLASH GORDON
1-2
By JIM KEEFE
MOMENTS AFTER PLACING THE KRONTORS' CROWN ON HIS HEAD, LONAK SCREAMS IN AGONY!
GET IT OFF! IN TAO'S NAME, GET IT OFF!
CAN'T! IT'S ATTACHING ITSELF!
THE BEASTS SUDDENLY CONVERGE ON LONAK, REMOVING ANY OBSTACLE IN THEIR WAY...
FLASH!
NOW THAT THEY HAVE LONAK, THE BEASTS ARE IGNORING US.
RONAL, WHAT'S GOING ON?
THE KRONTORS GOT WHAT THEY CAME FOR...
"...NOW THEY'RE RETURNING HOME."
FRIGIA IS UNDER SIEGE NO MORE.
BUT... WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO LONAK?
TO BE CONTD

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, the moon's influence may not be positive, potentially leading to health issues. It's advisable to refrain from investing in new business projects and to avoid reckless driving. Students should focus on their studies rather than indulge in fantasies. It's a day to prioritize self-care and cautious decision-making.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Expect mental peace today, with opportunities to bond with friends and family. Domestic life may be enjoyable, fostering understanding with your spouse. New partnerships in business and innovative ideas may lead to growth. Take time to appreciate the simple joys in life and strengthen your personal relationships.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Good health brings happiness, with financial matters improving due to controlled spending and new income sources. Singles may find love within their community. It's a day to celebrate your well-being and financial stability while remaining open to romantic possibilities.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Positive energy allows for efficient work performance, with opportunities to help others and enhance prestige. Intellectual pursuits and career planning are favoured, along with the potential for higher studies. Embrace your inner drive and intellectual curiosity as you navigate professional and personal growth.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Impatience and lack of confidence may hinder productivity until evening. Family health concerns and children's behaviour may cause stress. Focus and avoidance of risky investments are advised. Take a moment to centre yourself and regain confidence in your abilities amidst challenges.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Happiness is likely, with the potential for overseas work-related travel and an improved lifestyle. Caution against glamour and addictions is advised to maintain financial health. Embrace the opportunities for personal growth and indulge in self-care practices to enhance your well-being.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Control over speech is crucial to maintain family harmony. Avoid unnecessary spending to preserve financial stability. Take time to reflect on your communication style and financial habits, making adjustments to foster harmony and security within your family and finances.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Engagement in children's activities and career planning is highlighted. Consultations with specialists may lead to beneficial decisions. Investments in the family business are favoured. Focus on nurturing your family relationships and exploring avenues for professional advancement to achieve long-term success.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Caution against speaking impulsively and dealing with hidden enemies. Avoid risky investments and lending money. Stress-relief activities like meditation are recommended. Take time to centre yourself and cultivate inner peace amidst external challenges and uncertainties.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Job seekers may find new opportunities, and businesses may gain new clients. Singles may find suitable matches, but transparency in relationships is crucial. Embrace the possibilities for career advancement and personal growth while prioritizing honesty and authenticity in your relationships.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Professional success is likely, with positive results from past investments. Creativity enhances professional skills, and job seekers may find suitable positions. Students may achieve focus after self-analysis. Embrace your unique talents and innovative ideas as you pursue professional and academic goals.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Expect emotional turmoil until the afternoon, followed by blessings and completion of delayed projects. Avoid domestic arguments and expect gains from past investments by evening. Take time to reflect on your emotional needs and nurture yourself amidst challenges, allowing for personal growth and fulfilment.

KIDZONE

Gowri Darshan Bhatta, 10 years, BASIS School, Austin, Texas, USA

Inaaya Swarup, 5 years, Sri Kumarans School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
(a^b+b^2+n)
n=1,2,3,4
3^2+2^2+1=6+4+1=11
4^6+6^2+2=24+36+2=62
5^7+7^2+3=35+49+2=87
7^9+9^2+4=63+81+4=148

RIDDLER
A book

BULL'S EYE
gill, KILLING, king, liking, ling

FAST FIVE

A	R	E	C	A
L	E	M	O	N
U	T	E	R	I
M	I	E	N	S
S	P	R	U	E

STRIKE OUT

M	A	F	I	A	M	O	R	O	N	I	C			
A	M	R	S		T	A	P		R					
S		P	R	A	I	R	I	E		U				
T	I	D	I	E	R		A	N	N	A	L	S		
S	U		S	I	B		T		A					
E		T	E		N	N	E		M					
H		C	U	R	T	A	I	L		E				
T	A	R	I	F		C	H	A	F	E	D			
I		D		H	I	S		O		E				
P	O	S	E	D		C	U	P	T	O				
E		E	M	E	E	R		U		E				
S	P	A	T		E		C	O	O	E	D			
	E	N	S	I	O	N		I	C	I	N	G		
		A		J		N								
	G													
M	O	O	D	S		G	A	M	B	O	L	S		
	I		R		G		M		R					
A	S	H	E		R	E	A	L	I	S	E	S		
T		A		I		V		C		L				
B	I	S	M	I	L	L	A	H	K	H	A	N		
	S		A		S		W		I		A			
M	O	B	I	L	I	S	E		T	A	S	K		
	T		L		D		I		O					
A	P	P	L	E	P	I	E	O	R	D	E	R		
	P		U		H		C		S					
C	Y	L		R		S		N						

QUICK

T	O	U	S	L	E	D		G	E	N	O	A		
E		T	E	E		N	N	E		M				
H		C	U	R	T	A	I	L		E				
T	A	R	I	F	F		C	H	A	F	E	D		
I		D		H	I	S		O		E				
P	O	S	E	D		C	U	P	T	O				
E		E	M	E	E	R		U		E				
S	P	A	T		E		C	O	O	E	D			
	E	N	S	I	O	N		I	C	I	N	G		
		A		J		N								
	G													
M	O	O	D	S		G	A	M	B	O	L	S		
	I		R		G		M		R					
A	S	H	E		R	E	A	L	I	S	E	S		
T		A		I		V		C		L				
B	I	S	M	I	L	L	A	H	K	H	A	N		
	S		A		S		W		I		A			
M	O	B	I	L	I	S	E		T	A	S	K		
	T		L		D		I		O					
A	P	P	L	E	P	I	E	O	R	D	E	R		
	P		U		H		C		S					
C	Y	L		R		S		N						

MENSA PUZZLE
D: the dot is in a triangle

QUOTE UNCODE
Wise men talk because they have something to say; fools, because they have to say something

SUDOKU

9	5	2	4	3	6	7	1	8
8	7	3	1	2	5	9	6	4
1	4	6	7	9	8	5	3	2
4	9	7	6	5	1	2	8	3
5	2	8	3	4	9	6	7	1
6	3	1	2	8	7	4	9	5
3	8	9	5	6	4	1	2	7
2	1	4	9	7	3	8	5	6
7	6	5	8	1	2	3	4	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE
G, Go, Got, Tong, Ingot, Outing, Routing.

GO FIGURE
Easy
9 + 8 + 8 + 3 = 28
8 / 4 – 3 + 4 = 3
Medium
8 x 7 – 8 + 4 = 52
Hard

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 17, Issue No 007 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/22325 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore – 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru – 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

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